



ROYAL ACADEMY OF MUSIC NEWSLETTER

APRIL 1991

PROFESSORS' & STUDENTS' NEWS

Congratulations to the **Gould Trio** (**Lucy Gould**, **Martin Storey** and **Greta Dowdeswell**) on winning the John Trumell Trust award for 1991. Martin and Greta could also be heard at the Purcell Room in March in a programme including music by Jacob, Ireland and Britten.

Congratulations also to **Andrew West** on being awarded first prize in the Gerald Moore International Competition for Piano Accompanists.

Following a British tour in the autumn, the Maggini Quartet (viola, **Martin Outram**) recorded the three Haydn Opus 33 quartets, which will be released on Simax/Pro Musica. Future plans for the quartet include an invitation to the Ukraine in May and tours of Denmark and the USA.

During the latter part of 1990, **Hans-Peter** and **Volker Stenzl** toured Europe, appeared on German Television and adjudicated at the Palma d'Oro international chamber music competition in Italy. So far in 1991, they have made their Wigmore Hall debut in January and toured South America. August sees their debut at the Salzburg Festival with two performances of Mozart's Concerto for Two Pianos.

Kenneth Bowen is this year's Chairman of the Association of Teachers of Singing and President of the RAM Club. He conducted Dvorak's Stabat Mater at the Queen Elizabeth Hall in September.

The Royal Academy of Music Jazz String Quartet (**Chris Garrick**, **Miriam Gilbert**, violins; **Joe Doherty**, viola; **Steve Anstee**, cello) made their London debut as guests of the Michael Garrick Trio at the Purcell Room in February. The Michael Garrick Big Band gave a broadcast concert in Berkhamsted in March featuring Garrick's 'Hardy Country'. In the

ranks of the brass were RAM trumpeters **Ian Wood**, **Oliver Preece** and **Martin Shaw**, and trombonist **Dave Holt**. Garrick's Jazz Passion, 'Judas Kiss', was performed at St James's Church, Piccadilly, also in March. The Jazz String Quartet will be in action at lunch-time on 25th May at the Pavilion Theatre, Brighton as part of the Brighton Festival, and the concert will be broadcast on Radio 3 at 7pm the same evening.

There will be a Classic Jazz Course directed by **Michael Garrick** here at the Academy from 17th to 24th August. Further details can be obtained on request, and bursaries are available for Academy students wishing to take part.

Robert Spencer toured the USA, Canada, Belgium and Germany during the Autumn term, giving lutesong recitals and masterclasses. In November a German conductor attended the Early English Song Class's end-of-term concert and engaged **Marianne Saebo** and **Andrew Hammond** to perform in Stuttgart and Stetting in March and May.

Having spent three years studying great clarinettists' clarinets, **Keith Puddy** gave performances of the Brahms sonatas on a rare Ottensteiner clarinet at the Meiningen Museum in Munich with Malcolm Martineau. These were recorded by the BBC and should, all being well, appear as a commercial recording.

As Director of the London Oratory Junior Choir, **Patrick Russill** has recorded Bach's St Matthew Passion (winner of a 'Gramophone' Award) and Monteverdi's Vespers 1610, both with John Eliot Gardiner for DG Archiv.

David Robinson conducted the Harrow Philharmonic Choir and Orchestra in the first London performance of Paul Patterson's 'Te Deum' in November and it was given again the following week at the Barbican by the Brighton Festival Chorus and Royal Philharmonic Orchestra. The orchestra was drawn from Academy students, leader **Lucy Gould**. We wish David every success in his new position as Director of Music at Ardingly College, which he takes up in September.



Xue Wei toured the South East with the London Mozart Players and the London Philharmonic Orchestra in September and October, playing violin concertos by Strauss and Mendelssohn. He also played at the Seoul Music Festival in October. His recordings of the Brahms and Mendelssohn concertos with the LPO have been released by ASV.

David Titterington has recorded a series of six programmes of the complete organ works of Cesar Franck for the BBC. A tour of the Far East included appearances at the new Cultural Centre in Hong Kong and Tokyo, whilst a tour of Canada in April featured the premiere of a new work at the Guelph Spring Festival. He has recorded Petr Eben's large-scale dramatic organ work 'Job', which was written for him in 1987, and will give three performances of Marcel Dupre's Organ Concerto with the Berlin Symphony Orchestra in May.

Following the recent Korean trip with the Sinfonia, **John Georgiadis** is now in Australia to conduct the Adelaide Chamber Orchestra, the Queensland Philharmonic Orchestra and five performances of Mozart's opera 'La Finta Giardiniera' with the Queensland Conservatoire for the Mozart Festival. In between he will be travelling to New Zealand for some violin and piano recitals with Anthony Peebles.

As pianist, **Mary Nash** recorded for the BBC all the solo piano pieces in the plays, the 'Forsyth Chronicles', 'Chopin's Piano', and 'Stalin's Sonata' in 1990, and in 1991 she is prompter in Shostakovich's 'Lady Macbeth of Mtsensk' at the English National Opera and chorus master for Puccini's 'Tosca' at Earls Court.

Nicholas Danby gave three concerts of music by Bach at the first Moscow Organ Festival, Leningrad and Kaliningrad, as well as masterclasses for young organists from all over the USSR. The first two issues of his Anthology of European Organ Music are now released on Virgin Classics.

Philip Fowke was soloist in Prokofiev's First Piano Concerto and Franck's Symphonic Variations at the Proms last year, and in

Tippett's Piano Concerto with the BBC Welsh Symphony Orchestra in Prague and Vienna. He has recently recorded the Delius Piano Concerto, and future recordings will include the complete piano works of Sir Arthur Bliss, to coincide with his centenary this year.

Nick Ingman has been working with Paul McCartney on the music for the film of his world tour, and he wrote the theme tune for last autumn's BBC TV series 'Keeping Up Appearances'.

Robin Page conducted the newly formed National Police Orchestra in their first concerts in Liverpool, Bristol, Glasgow, Exeter, Birmingham and at the Royal Albert Hall.

Arthur Wills was Richard Baker's guest on 'Comparing Notes' in October and his first Symphony was premiered by the Sinfonia of Leeds in December.

Roger Steptoe gave the first recital in the ISM 'Counterpoint' series in March, which included his own *Equinox* for piano solo. He then took the programme to New York in April, and will be the featured composer at the Peterborough Cathedral Festival.

David Lawrence has just returned from conducting the Monteverdi Choir of Bogota and leading a week's seminary on 'Advanced Choral Conduction' (?!!), and as a result, has been invited to sit on the board of directors of the Music Department at the University de los Andes. Future conducting and teaching commitments will take David to Switzerland, Canada, Zimbabwe and Mauritius, and in September he will take up the position of Musical Director of the Huntingdonshire Philharmonic Orchestra and Chorus, with whom his first concert will take place in Wertheim, Germany. David is also about to make the first commercial recording to be exclusively devoted to the music of **Christopher Brown** with the British Chamber Choir and Mark Townend's Brass Unlimited on the CMS label.



Jonathan Freeman-Attwood and Iain Simcock gave the first trumpet and organ recital ever held at St John's Smith Square in October, in a programme of music from Frescobaldi to Bach.

Colin Metters has been appointed Head of Orchestral Studies at The King's School, Canterbury, from September 1991.

David Owen Norris is the 1991 Irving S. Gilmore Artist, an honour accorded him after a two-year search on three continents among many of the world's finest pianists. His was the most distinctive voice the judges heard, 'the deepest - and most exciting - level of musicianship' they encountered. The award, one of the most substantial in music, will take him to 60 concert engagements in the USA and Europe. He has been hailed as "a truly exceptional talent . . . the kind of pianist who is strong enough to change the outlook of the musical world", and the Academy adds its own sincere congratulations and best wishes for his future career.

Free Bass Accordion rules OK! The successful visit of Professor Semyonov from the USSR at the end of March culminated in an appearance with **Owen Murray** on the popular BBC Radio Four programme 'Richard Baker Compares Notes'. Owen will be performing over the next couple of months at Dunblane Cathedral in Scotland, plus two recitals at the famous St Magnus Festival, which will include the world premiere of 'The Passage of the Divine Bird', written by composer and alumnus, John McLeod. In July, Owen has been invited to perform, adjudicate and lecture at the Australian Accordion Week in Queensland, with concerts in Sydney, Melbourne and Perth. **Neil Varley**, a pupil of Owen's, collaborated on an exciting project during the term with the Royal Ballet School - we await a visit by the school to the Academy so we can *all* enjoy this exciting artistic venture (11th May).

GENERAL NEWS

All readers of the Newsletter will want to wish the Administrator, **John Bliss**, a very happy retirement from the beginning of May. His firm tutelage of the Academy's fabric, finances and administration during the 1980s, especially during the 1986-9 Appeal, has enabled the Academy to make progress on many different fronts, and we shall greatly miss his presence. To John and Pam Bliss go the Academy's very best wishes for the future.

The Academy plans a new service, which has the full support of the RAM Club, aimed initially at students who will be leaving and beginning to establish their careers. From April, a new database - THE MUSIC BOX - will make it easy to obtain mailing labels for performance venues all over the country - including music clubs, university concert halls, stately homes, hotel chains with lounges which employ musicians etc. The computer will also produce basic artwork for concert flyers, and help will be given with production of CVs. The service will be free in the first instance, and information and address labels will later be made available for a small fee to all former students and Academy staff. **Janet Snowman**, who will be building the database, would be very interested to hear your suggestions about other ways in which THE MUSIC BOX could be of help. More news will follow. Watch this space . . .

We extend a warm welcome to new (or recently new) members of the administrative staff: **Susan Adams** (Projects), **Helen Brown** (Data Processing), **Katharine Hogg** (Library) and **Catherine McKiernan** (Academic Affairs).

H11 RAM - News reached the Academy of this vehicle registration number recently for sale for the modest sum of £5,000. Even when the obvious marketing, advertising and public relations potential was pointed out to him the **Director of Development** refused to be tempted!



Academy personnel have been well represented on television in recent months - **Nicola Loud** and **Gyorgy Pauk** in connection with the 1991 BBC Young Musician of the Year; the Stenzls and various teaching/practice shots for Granada TV's daytime series 'Past Masters', a 10-week series starting on 22nd April; and the **Principal** was interviewed on the 'South Bank Show' featuring **Anne-Sophie Mutter**.

Preparations are well under for the Academy's first ever publication - *Masterpieces of Italian Violin Making 1650-1820* by **David Rattray**. Twenty-six of our finest stringed instruments will be featured for the first time in full colour photographs, each with a descriptive narrative including principal dimensions and placing in historical context. The book should be available in the late summer term, price £25 (+ £1.50 p&p), from the Development Office.

The Sinfonia has just returned from a most successful tour of the Republic of Korea, but more about that in the September issue of the RAM Magazine

Many thanks to the 109 Academy supporters who have taken out an Artscard. In the words of Midland Bank, "this is an above-average response, indicating an encouraging warmth amongst your mailing lists". For those of you still without, it's never too late (The Artscard is being promoted to Academy supporters by the newly formed RAM Development Co Ltd, a trading company which will act entrepreneurially to raise funds for the Academy).

The third Opera Singalong in January was a resounding success - thanks not only to our distinguished soloists, but also to the hard work of the Opera chorus and Symphony Orchestra. It raised over £3,000 for the Academy.

Believe it or not, by the time you read this the Duke's Hall will finally have closed for its much-needed renovation. When it re-opens it will be warm, comfortable and well ventilated; there will be a new stage, lighting system, recording studio, green room and seats; the floor will be raised by three feet and the ceiling

will be flat. For over a year it will be noisy, dirty and disruptive but it *will* be worth it!

OLD TIES for NEW BOYS! We have received many requests for RAM ties and wonder therefore if any of you have spare ties lying around unused and are willing to re-circulate them. **Janet Snowman** in the Development Office would love to hear from you, become the tie-bank, and also be the recipient of any other Academy memorabilia. Tel: 071 935 1665.

Janet is still selling sweatshirts (£12.99), postcards and beautiful posters of some of the Academy's famous Stradivarius instruments. See enclosed sheet.

An invaluable little book, which has been out of print for too long, is to make a welcome reappearance in the next couple of months. A new edition of 'The Musician's Handbook' (Rhinegold Publications), a compendium of practical advice for the music profession, is edited by Trevor Ford, who gives 'clinics' at the Academy on tax advice for musicians and is a former RAM student. ALL students should take note.

We have 5 sets of Volumes 1, 2 and 3 of the video 'ORCHESTRA' with Sir Georg Solti and Dudley Moore to give as prizes courtesy of PolyGram Video. To win these super prizes, which cover the magic of a great orchestra, all you have to do is answer these two simple questions:

1. Sir Georg Solti has won many Grammy awards in his career - how many?
2. Which Orchestra is featured in this video collection?

Completed entries should reach the Development Office by Friday, 31st May.



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